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## **Letter: Clean energy better than capping gases**

Most Americans agree that climate change is one of the major issues of our time. It can also be one of the most polarizing when debating options to curb climate change. U.S. Sens. Joe Lieberman and John Warner drafted America's Climate Security Act to address climate change. They chose to focus on capping current greenhouse gas emissions as opposed to or in partnership with promoting clean-energy technology and international cooperation.

The Lieberman-Warner bill got it wrong. Since 1980, the use of coal for electricity generation has risen by whooping 77 percent. Yet during the same time, coal-related emissions of nitrogen oxide have decreased by 33 percent and emissions of sulfur dioxide have decreased by 40 percent, according the EPA. There certainly is a need for further reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, but placing arbitrary limits on those emissions as called for by Lieberman-Warner would unnecessarily harm America's economy. American prosperity and jobs do not need to be sacrificed just to comply with arbitrary standards.

Rather, we should be encouraging the research and development in technology to make our energy cleaner. Funding this research, as well as encouraging the global community, such as China and India to do the same, is how we will achieve actual change.

**James Cole**  
**Red Lodge**